

CLAIMS

1. A communication device, comprising:  
recognizing means for recognizing an attribute  
5 of a search condition that is added to image data  
stored in a communicating party; and

searching means for searching the image data  
stored in the communicating party based on the  
recognition made by the recognizing means.  
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2. A communication device according to claim 1,  
wherein the search condition includes positional  
information, and the recognizing means recognizes an  
attribute of the positional information that is added  
15 to the image data stored in the communicating party.

3. A communication device according to claim 1,  
further comprising display means for displaying the  
attribute of the search condition recognized by the  
20 recognizing means.

4. A communication device according to claim 1,  
further comprising inquiry means for making an inquiry  
to the communicating party as to what attribute of a  
25 search condition is added to the image data stored in  
the communicating party, wherein the recognizing means  
makes the recognition based on a result of the inquiry

made by the inquiry means.

5. A communication device according to claim 4,  
wherein the inquiry means makes the inquiry each time  
5 the communication device connects with the  
communicating party in order to search the image data  
stored in the communicating party.

6. A communication device according to claim 4,  
10 further comprising setting means for setting a mode in  
which the inquiry means does not make the inquiry even  
when the communication device connects with the  
communicating party in order to search the image data  
stored in the communicating party.

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7. A communication device according to claim 4,  
further comprising setting means for setting a mode in  
which the inquiry means makes the inquiry when the  
communication device connects with the communicating  
20 party, independently of the search of the image data  
stored in the communicating party.

8. A communication device according to claim 7,  
further comprising display means for displaying the  
25 attribute of the search condition recognized by the  
recognizing means in accordance with a setting made by  
the setting means.

9. A communication device according to claim 1,  
wherein the searching means comprises converting means  
for converting the search condition in accordance with  
the recognition made by the recognizing means, and  
5 informing means for informing the search condition  
converted by the converting means to the communicating  
party.

10. A communication device according to claim 9,  
10 further comprising selecting means for selecting a  
desired one of a plurality of attributes recognized by  
the recognizing means, wherein the converting means  
converts the search condition in accordance with the  
selection made by the selecting means.

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11. A communication device according to claim 1,  
further comprising selecting means for selecting a  
desired one of a plurality of attributes recognized by  
the recognizing means, and judging means for judging  
20 whether or not the search condition of the attribute  
selected by the selecting means is utilizable in the  
communication device.

12. A communication device according to claim  
25 11, wherein the judging means makes the judgement  
based on a search condition that is added to the image  
data stored in the communicating party.

13. An image storage device, comprising:

informing means for informing a communicating party of an attribute of a search condition that is added to image data stored in the image storage

5 device; and

searching means for searching the image data in accordance with a request from the communicating party.

14. An image storage device according to claim  
10 13, wherein the search condition includes positional information, and the informing means informs the communicating party of an attribute of the positional information that is added to the image data stored.

15 15. An image storage device according to claim 13, wherein the informing means informs the communicating party of the attribute of the search condition in accordance with a request from the communicating party.

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16. An image storage device according to claim 13, further comprising judging means for judging, based on information received from the communicating party, whether or not a search condition of an  
25 attribute that the communicating party is capable of sending as a search condition is of a given format.

17. A communication device, comprising:  
obtaining means for obtaining positional  
information; and

transmitting means for transmitting the  
5 positional information obtained by the obtaining means  
when an image pickup instruction signal for  
instructing to take an image is sent to an image  
pickup device.

10 18. A communication device according to claim  
17, wherein the obtaining means is capable of  
obtaining pieces of positional information of a  
plurality of attributes, and the transmitting means  
selectively transmits the positional information of  
15 the plurality of attributes.

19. A communication device according to claim  
18, further comprising selecting means for selecting  
arbitrary positional information from the pieces of  
20 positional information of the plurality of attributes,  
wherein the transmitting means transmits the  
positional information in accordance with the  
selection made by the selecting means.

25 20. A communication device according to claim  
17, further comprising display means for displaying  
information related to the positional information

transmitted by the transmitting means.

21. A communication device according to claim 17, wherein the obtaining means is capable of  
5 obtaining pieces of positional information of a plurality of attributes, and the communication device further comprises display means for displaying the attributes of the positional information obtained by the obtaining means.

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22. A communication device according to claim 17, further comprising searching means for searching image data stored in the image pickup device.

15 23. An image pickup device, comprising:  
receiving means for receiving positional information together with an image pickup instruction signal from a communicating party that instructs the image pickup device to take an image;

20 image-taking means for taking an image in accordance with the image pickup instruction signal received by the receiving means; and

storage means for storing the positional information received by the receiving means in  
25 association with the image taken by the image-taking means.

24. An image pickup device according to claim 23, wherein the storage means stores the image with the positional information being added thereto.

5        25. An image pickup device according to claim 23, further comprising informing means for informing the communicating party of an attribute of the positional information stored in association with the stored image, in accordance with an instruction from  
10 the communicating party.

26. An image pickup device according to claim 23, further comprising searching means for searching image data based on the positional information stored  
15 in association with the stored image.

27. An image pickup device according to claim 23, further comprising searching means for searching image data based on an attribute of the positional  
20 information stored in association with the stored image.

28. A communication device controlling method, comprising:  
25        a recognizing step of recognizing an attribute of a search condition that is added to image data stored in a communicating party; and

a searching step of searching the image data stored in the communicating party based on the recognition made in the recognizing step.

5           29. An image storage device controlling method, comprising:

an informing step of informing a communicating party of an attribute of a search condition that is added to image data stored in the image storage

10 device; and

a searching step of searching the image data in accordance with a request from the communicating party.

          30. A communication device controlling method, comprising:

an obtaining step of obtaining positional information; and

          a transmitting step of transmitting the positional information obtained in the obtaining step  
20 when an image pickup instruction signal for instructing to take an image is sent to an image pickup device.

          31. An image pickup device controlling method, comprising:

a receiving step of receiving positional information together with an image pickup instruction



signal from a communicating party that instructs the image pickup device to take an image;

an image-taking step of taking an image in accordance with the image pickup instruction signal  
5 received in the receiving step; and

a storing step of storing the positional information received in the receiving step in association with the image taken in the image-taking step.